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BUFFALO 3, N. Y.

11, 25/54

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am in search of a sample of neolactose and would like to know if you could help me out. If the material itself is not available it would be most helpful if you could direct me to source from which to obtain the altrose and also the directions for the synthesis of neolactose.

You might be interested to know the reason for this request. The last few months I have been working with a constitutive strain of E. coli W1317, which you originally isolated, and from which I derived a non-lactose utilizer. This secondary mutant, as well as the parent strain W1317, show an anomaly with respect to ONPG penetration. No ONPG concentration up to  $10^{-4}$  M permit the hydrolysis to proceed at maximum velocity when whole cells are used as the enzyme source. This phenomenon had originally been found by H. Rickenberg in strain Y-Lac<sup>-</sup>, which was also derived from K-12. K-12 itself does not show this.

I am now interested to produce some lactase constitutive strains from a non-lysogenic strain of E. coli and intent to study these for ONPG penetration.

I've moved here recently from Yale, where these studies were started, and shall continue them here during the second year's tenure of my U.S.P.H. fellowship.

Best regards to you and those of your crew who know me.

Sincerely,

Ellen Kamm Pine

Dr. J. Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisc.